

**MINUTES**  
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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2005**  
**REGULAR SESSION**

**Call To Order**

The Board of Selectmen convened in open session at 7:00 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of Town Hall. All members were present. Also present were Town Administrator Thomas Younger and Assistant Town Administrator Jeffrey Conti.

The Board of Selectmen officially welcomed new Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti.

**Hurricane Katrina Related Issues**

The Board of Selectmen observed a moment of silence for those killed by Hurricane Katrina.

The Selectmen discussed ways in which Town residents can assist with hurricane relief efforts. It was noted that the Town's web site contains information on this subject.

Resident Nancy Davis suggested the possibility of housing refugees in a particular building on Concord Avenue. Ms. Davis also suggested setting up a housing fund.

Resident Bill Engstrom suggested that a vacant apartment on Payson Road could be used.

The Board of Selectmen determined that it would not be appropriate for the Town to pursue these ideas.

**Questions From Town Residents**

Resident Anthony Oberdorfer questioned a \$3,000 appropriation to the Human Rights Commission (HRC) for sensitivity training.

Dr. Solomon noted that the funding is for the Commission to obtain a facilitator and comes from the Town's discretionary funds. Selectman Brownsberger also noted that the Town has had its share of issues in this area and expressed its view that the HRC is serving a useful function.

**Action By Appointment**

*Public Hearing of Utility Petition – Keyspan, Brighton Street*

A Keyspan representative appeared before the Board of Selectmen to request permission to extend a gas line from Brighton Street.

The Board moved: to approve the petition by Keyspan to extend its gas pipe to a house adjacent to Brighton Street.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Discussion of Special Town Meeting*

The Board of Selectmen discussed proposed articles for a Special Town Meeting tentatively scheduled for October 24, 2005:

- *Discussion of Sale of Parcels on Woodfall Road and Disposition of Proceeds*

Town Administrator Tom Younger indicated that Town Assessor Dick Simmons is preparing an appraisal of the four lots. The Board of Selectmen discussed whether or not to delay the Town Meeting while issues related to a proposed land swap with the Belmont Country Club are resolved. The Selectmen also discussed a proposal to put an article before Town Meeting that would dedicate the proceeds from the sale of the Woodfall Road properties to the new Senior Center project. Senior Center Building Committee Chair Karen Pressey appeared before the Board of Selectmen for this discussion. Ms. Pressey cited the increasing cost of the project and opposed delaying Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen also discussed the possibility of a debt exclusion question for the Senior Center project. Ms. Pressey indicated the Committee would prefer the Woodfall Road option. The Selectmen agreed, subject to the approval of the Warrant and Capital Budget Committees, but expressed concerns about the Town's ability to allocate this money before knowing what the amount would be. The Board of Selectmen decided to put articles before the Town Meeting authorizing the land swap and the sale of the parcels, but to wait until the sale takes place before possibly convening another Special Town Meeting to authorize the disposition of the proceeds.

- *Discussion of Disposition of Central Fire Station*

The Board of Selectmen agreed that the fire station should be occupied by a commercial business but that the historic nature of the building should be preserved. The Board of Selectmen discussed what type of business might be best for this location. It was noted that the Belmont Center Planning Group will come before the Board in two weeks and would have input on this matter.

There was no discussion of the remaining articles: revision of the solicitation by-law; a proposed historic preservation by-law; and proposed funding for a security system for the Town Hall complex buildings.

The Board moved: to hold a Special Town Meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Public Hearing of Special Permit – Cityside Subaru, Pleasant Street*

Richard White of Cityside Subaru appeared before the Board of Selectmen to request permission for signage on the dealership building and a brand pylon sign at the entrance to the property.

The Board of Selectmen noted that Planning Coordinator Jeffrey Wheeler had recommended the Board of Selectmen approve this request on the condition that Cityside Subaru plant and maintain shrubs at the foot of the sign.

The Board moved: to approve the request by Cityside Subaru to erect signage under the specified conditions.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Discussion of Application for Renewal of Licenses and Permits - Common Victualler License, Angelato Foods, Trapelo Road*

Selectman Firenze recused himself from consideration of this item and left the room.

Angelo Firenze, Jr. of Angelato Foods appeared before the Board of Selectmen to request a new Common Victualler License. Mr. Firenze explained that the business has moved from Waverley Street to Trapelo Road.

The Board moved: to approve the request by Angelato Foods for a new common victualler's license.

The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

Selectman Firenze returned to the meeting.

*Police Chief re: Request for Promotions and Marlboro Street Unity Avenue Crosswalk*

Police Chief Andrew O'Malley appeared before the Board of Selectmen to request permission to re-paint a crosswalk at the intersection of Marlboro Street and Unity Avenue.

The Board noted that many residents have requested this.

The Board moved: to approve the Police Chief's request to re-paint the crosswalk at the intersection of Marlboro Street and Unity Avenue.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Chief O'Malley requested the Board of Selectmen's permission to replace a retiring Lieutenant through promotion and backfill the resulting vacancy.

The Selectmen discussed a pending bypass appeal by a police officer. Chief O'Malley explained that this would not affect the ability to implement this promotion.

The Board moved: to approve the Police Chief's request to fill a Lieutenant position through promotion and backfill the resulting vacancy.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

#### *Discussion of FY2007 Budget*

Warrant Committee Chair Ralph Jones and School Committee Chair Elizabeth Gibson appeared before the Board of Selectmen to discuss the FY2007 budget.

The Board discussed ideas for cutting costs in anticipation of a budget gap for fiscal year 2007.

The Selectmen requested that Town Administrator Tom Younger work with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Peter Holland to agree on the details of a "level service" budget for FY2007 and report back before the New Year.

The Board of Selectmen discussed how to spend road money more efficiently.

#### *Discussion of Purecoat North Property*

The Board of Selectmen discussed Purecoat North's interest in moving out of Belmont and ways in which the Town can facilitate this move and the re-use of the site.

Town Administrator Tom Younger noted that Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti is investigating relocation assistance on the state level.

The Board of Selectmen agreed that the Town could explore a zoning change for the site and possible mitigation of utilities.

Resident Bill Trabilcy expressed concerns about the Purecoat Planning Committee (PPC)'s plans to do independent environmental sampling around the Purecoat North site because of the many required actions that would be triggered if something is found.

The Board of Selectmen recommended that Mr. Trabilcy present his concerns to the PPC.

PPC Member Brian Iler stated that his committee is looking into hiring a Licensed Site professional to oversee the sampling.

The Board of Selectmen noted the importance of addressing any potential safety issue for area residents and expressed support for the PPC's proposal.

*Discussion of Dissolution of Belmont Cable Access Committee*

The Board of Selectmen discussed the recommendation of the Belmont Cable Access Committee to dissolve itself.

The Board moved: to dissolve the Belmont Cable Access Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Discussion of Cable Television Advisory Committee Appointment*

The Board of Selectmen discussed the request of Janet M. Geggis to be appointed to the Belmont Cable Television Advisory Committee.

The Board moved: to appoint Janet M. Geggis to the Belmont Cable Television Advisory Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Town Administrator presented his Weekly Report:

- *Discussion of Senior Center Lease*

The Selectmen agreed to come up with a worst case scenario for relocation of the Senior Center if they cannot remain a tenant at will.

- *Discussion of Belmont Center Commercial Trash Concerns*

Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti reported on Wellesley's handling of this issue by prohibiting trash on curbsides.

The Board moved: to instruct the Town Administrator to inform Belmont Center businesses that if they will not address the trash problem to the Town's satisfaction, the Town will consider a by-law change similar to Wellesley's.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Town Administrator Younger noted that the Town has applied for a \$2500 insurance loss control grant, that the ice rink repair is on schedule, that the Cable Advisory Committee is negotiating with Verizon, and that beginning October 11 town departments will begin outreach sessions at the Senior Center.

### **Action By Consent**

*Approval of Minutes (06/20/05, 07/11/05 and 07/25/05)*

The Board moved: to accept the Minutes of 06/20/05, 07/11/05 and 07/25/05, as drafted.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Approval of Waverley Square Fire Station License Agreement*

The Board moved: to approve the Waverley Square Fire Station License Agreement.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Approval of Blanchard Road Project Bid Award Recommendation*

The Board moved: to approve the Blanchard Road Project Bid Award Recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Approval of Pleasant Street Reconstruction Agreement – Snake Hill Rd Residents*

The Board moved: to approve the Pleasant Street Reconstruction Agreement for all Snake Hill Road residents.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Approval of Petition for New Certificate of Title - 275 Trapelo Road*

The Board moved: to approve the petition for new certificate of title for 275 Trapelo Road.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Resident re: Sycamore Street Parking*

Action on this matter was deferred to Action by Writing.

**Action by Writing**

*Approval of Annual Contract with Special Town Counsels*

The Board discussed the purpose and cost of these contracts.

The Board moved: to approve the annual contracts with Special Town Counsels.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*Resident re: Follow up on Tree Removal Request - 2 Warwick Road*

The Board discussed an inquiry from a Warwick Road resident about a previous denial of a request to remove a tree near the property's driveway. The Board agreed that the resident would not be granted a re-hearing or an exemption from the overnight parking ban.

*Sycamore Street Parking*

The Board of Selectmen discussed a complaint about business employees parking in front of a residential property on Sycamore Street. The Board agreed to refer the complaint to the Police Department and expressed its desire to address parking issues in a more comprehensive fashion.

Town Administrator Tom Younger noted that Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti has developed and implemented a database to keep track of parking complaints received by the Town so that the Town may better assess the degree and scope of the problem. Mr. Younger also noted that the integrated pre-school on Sherman Street is staying in its present location and the parking issue there will need to be resolved.

The Board of Selectmen agreed that the Town Administrator Younger has the authority to deal with these issues before coming to the Board of Selectmen.

**Other**

The Board of Selectmen briefly discussed some additional issues, including a wellness project and the status of the bicycle path project.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to invite the project engineer for the Pleasant Street construction project to appear before it with a status update.

The Board of Selectmen introduced new Globe Northwest reporter Dorie Block.

The Board of Selectmen adjourned its open session at 10:07 pm.

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Thomas G. Younger  
Town Administrator